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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 11369 250505Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------060843 250508Z /17
O 250442Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2744

S E C R E T MANILA 11369

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, MPOL
SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE BASES ISSUES

REF: (A) MANILA 9449; (B) STATE 168840; (C) CINCPAC 230305Z JUL 77 (D) CINCPAC 232207Z JUL 77

1. PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THAT MEETING WITH UNDERSECRETARY INGLES IS SEEN (AT LEAST ON PHILIPPINE SIDE) AS RESPONSIVE TO PRESIDENT MARCOS' SUGGESTIONS (REF A) ON JULY 20 (WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO PRESENT):

A. THAT WE BEGIN PROMPTLY TO DISCUSS LESSER ISSUES CONCERNING U.S. MILITARY BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES "THAT CANNOT WAIT" SUCH AS SMUGGLING, WATERSHED PROTECTION, PERIMETER SECURITY, ETC., AND

B. THAT ON PHILIPPINE SIDE A "TASK FORCE" BE SET UP WITH INGLES IN CHARGE.

2. AT RECEPTION JULY 23 INGLES SCHEDULED PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION FOR 3:00 P.M. LOCAL JULY 25, INDICATED HE WOULD BE KEEPING ROMULO INFORMED, AND NOTED HE (INGLES) WOULD BE LEAVING JULY 27 FOR KUALA LUMPUR ASEAN PRELIMINARIES. AT DINNER JULY 23 ROMULO ALREADY WAS AWARE OF SCHEDULED JULY 25 MEETING WITH INGLES. ROMULO ALSO INDICATED CURRENT HIGH LEVEL GOP PREOCCUPATION WITH ASEAN SUMMIT.

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3. WE, OF COURSE, WISH TO AVOID SUGGESTION OF UNRESPONSIVENESS OR CIRCUMVENTION OF PROCEDURES AND PARTICIPATION AS PROPOSED BY MARCOS. ALL THE MORE SO IN THAT REF B INSTRUCTIONS NEATLY OVERCOME ANY LIKELY REAL PROBLEM BY MEANS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REP GIMMICK. ACCORDINGLY, WOULD PREFER NOT RPT NOT TO BE BOUND BY REF C SUGGESTION

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THAT "SEC INGLES SIMPLY BE ADVISED THAT U.S. SIDE WILL BE INTRODUCING (SECURITY PROPOSALS) TO MDB IN THE NEAR FUTURE." THE BURDEN OF OUR EFFORT WITH INGLES WILL BE TO MOVE ISSUES THROUGH GENERAL DISCUSSION AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE INTO MDB FOR DETAILED CONSIDERATION. THIS REGARD ASSUME SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS TO MDB CONTEMPLATED REF D WILL BE COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY, AND THAT CINCPACREPHIL (AND 13TH AF) WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS WITH INGLES SUBSEQUENT TO JULY 25 PRELIMINARY.

4. IN SUM, BELIEVE PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF PENDING DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP CONCERNING ISSUES RELATED TO BASES UNDER EXISTING MBA CAN BE MANAGED BY CLOSE EMBASSY-CINCPAC COORDINATION, IN U.S. INTEREST AND WITHOUT STEPPING ON PHILIPPINE BUNIONS.

5. DEPT MAY WISH TO PASS TO MILITARY ADDRESSEES REF B.
STULL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Control Number: n/a
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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